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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7335

BILL NUMBER: HB 1350

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 25, 2004

BILL AMENDED: Feb 19, 2004

SUBJECT: Certification of Health Care Interpreters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Aguilera

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Lawson

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill creates the Commission on Health Care Interpreters and Translators which is staffed by the State Department of Health. The bill requires the Commission to report specified findings and recommendations to the Health Finance Commission not later than November 1, 2004.

Effective Date: July 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill establishes a 14-member advisory commission. The Commission would meet quarterly or on the call of the chairperson; it would expire on June 30, 2005.

The Commission is established to: (1) write bylaws concerning the operation of the Commission, (2) define the terms "health care interpreter" and "health care translator," (3) review and determine the proper level of regulation or oversight that Indiana should have over health care interpreters and health care translators practicing in Indiana, (4) recommend the level and type of education necessary to perform the job of a health care interpreter and a health care translator, and (5) recommend standards that health care interpreters and health care translators should meet in order to practice in Indiana.

The Department of Health (DOH) would be responsible for (a) providing staff support, and (b) paying the expenses of the Commission. Members of the Commission who are state employees are entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana Department of Administration and approved by the State Budget Agency. It is assumed that the DOH can absorb the cost of the Commission within current appropriations. The DOH reverted \$7.6 M to the state General Fund in FY 2003.

The Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Health Finance Commission by November 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Health.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

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